



April 6, 2012

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Evergreen State Class update

On Wednesday morning, I met with Rep. Clibborn, chair of the House Transportation Committee, and other legislators to provide an update on the Evergreen State Class vessels. The 1950s era Klahowya and Tillikum ferries, two of the oldest ferries in the fleet, are experiencing drive-motor problems that require the vessels to operate at reduced power when they are in service. The good news is that, even at reduced speeds, we have been able to maintain our sailing schedules on the Fauntleroy/Vashon Island/Southworth routes. The Klahowya, Tillikum and Evergreen State are next on the list for retirement as WSF builds and brings into service new [144-car ferries](#). The first new vessel is now under construction at Vigor Industrial's Harbor Island shipyard in Seattle, with completion expected in 2014. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and be as creative as we can in terms of scheduling. For more information, [read our news release](#).

Ferry fares to increase in May

On May 1, the following fare changes will go into effect:

- WSF is implementing an across-the-board, three-percent fare increase to help cover operating costs and meet revenue targets. The Transportation Commission approved this increase last August as part of its annual review of ferry fares. This increase applies to all fare types, including vehicle/driver, walk-on, and multi-ride cards. The state transportation budget requires WSF to meet an overall revenue target of \$310 million that must be collected from ferry fares between July 1, 2011, and June 30, 2013.
- Single-ticket prices for vehicles will increase 25 percent on all routes, except for the San Juan Islands where they will increase 35 percent, as part of a peak-season surcharge through September.
- Drivers of vehicles shorter than 14 feet will pay 20 percent less than drivers of standard-sized vehicles.

To find the fare for your route and mode of travel, read the [new fare brochure](#).

Colman dock customers: AWV related closures

Construction-related overnight closures of Marion and Madison streets will affect access to and from Colman dock tonight through early Saturday morning. Closures are scheduled as follows: full closure of Marion Street, 8 p.m.-5 a.m.; and full closure of Madison Street, 7 p.m.-5 a.m. To follow construction progress, visit the [Alaskan Way Viaduct replacement program website](#).

Meeting with passenger-only ferry operators

On Thursday, I met with representatives from King County and other passenger-only ferry (POF) operators to talk about the future of POF service at Colman dock. Per legislative direction, WSF will not preclude POF service at Colman dock as part of the [Seattle multimodal terminal project](#). WSF is proposing to modify the environmental assessment for the project to include in-kind replacement, with the understanding that POF operators would be responsible for the additional project costs.

Impressive on-time performance for March

I am happy to report that WSF's on-time performance for March was impressive. On-time is measured as a departure within 10 minutes of the scheduled sailing time. All of our routes were in the 90th percentile and four of our routes were at 100 percent, including Pt. Defiance/Tahlequah, Edmonds/Kingston, Mukilteo/Clinnton, and Anacortes/Sidney B.C. Congratulations to WSF employees on a job well done! Visit our [accountability Web page](#) to view the on-time performance figures.

Reminder: April 11 public hearing regarding proposed WAC changes

As I mentioned in my [March 16 report](#), WSF is proposing changes to the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) regarding preferential loading that would affect routes that currently offer vehicle reservations. [Read about our proposed changes](#), then send your comments to wsfplanning@wsdot.wa.gov. A public hearing regarding the proposed changes will be held from 1-2 p.m. Wednesday, April 11, at WSF offices, 2901 Third Ave., Seattle.

Puyallup turbocharger installation

On March 22, the Eagle Harbor Maintenance Facility (EHMF) replaced one of the four main propulsion diesel engine turbochargers on the 202-car Puyallup. The turbocharger increases the horsepower and efficiency of the engine. The replacement was done by EHMF staff during the vessel night tie up and the Puyallup is now serving the Seattle/Bainbridge route. View a [photo](#) of the one-ton turbocharger.

Read the latest ferry tales

Read the most recent postings on our blog: [A Wintry Ride](#) and [A Spectacular Display](#).

Next Week:

- Meeting with U.S. Coast Guard
- Alaskan Way Viaduct coordination meeting
- April 11 public hearing regarding [proposed WAC changes](#)
- Meeting with the Quebec Minister of Transport

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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